

December 1, 2008

Mr. Li Weining  
Mayor  
Jiaxing Municipal People's Government  
1 Guangchang Road  
Jiaxing  
Zhejiang  
314050  
China

Dear Mayor Weining,

Thank you for your warm invitation to visit Jiaxing to sign the sister city agreement between our two cities. All of us in the City of Rockville are looking forward to a successful partnership with you and the residents of Jiaxing.

Unfortunately, we are unable to plan a visit to Jiaxing at this time. Rockville has chosen to focus its financial resources on essential services for residents during these uncertain economic times.

Although we are unable to make a visit to Jiaxing this year, I would like to extend an open invitation for you, and other representatives from Jiaxing, to visit Rockville at your convenience. In lieu of signing the agreement in person, we are looking into the possibility of sharing the signing of our agreement via video conference. We will be in contact regarding the specific requirements to see if this is possible.

Enclosed is a Rockville flag, a token of our Sister City friendship. I would also like to invite you to send a flag from Jiaxing to be flown alongside our flag over Rockville's City Hall as a symbol of our sister city relationship.

We will continue to work with the Rockville Sister City Corporation to arrange and sign the sister city agreement between Rockville and Jiaxing. The residents of Rockville are eager to formalize our relationship and we look forward to the citizens of our two cities benefiting from this new partnership.

Sincerely,

Mayor Susan R. Hoffmann  
Rockville, Maryland